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Message Text

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21
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /063 W
---------- 065386
R 250909Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2238
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IS, SF, NI, MILI
SUBJ: VISIT OF ISRAELI GENERAL

REF: LAGOS 6919

1. GENERAL MEIR AMIT'S VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA GENERATED LITTLE PRESS COVERAGE HERE. HE DID AGREE TO BE INTERVIEWED BY SEVERAL REPORTERS BUT GENERALLY CONFINED HIS REMARKS TO DISCUSSION OF SOUTH AFRICAN-ISRAELI COMMERCIAL LINKS (STRONG AND GROWING). AMIT DID, HOWEVER, TELL (SOUTH AFRICAN) SUNDAY TIMES JOURNALIST STANLEY UYS THAT ISRAELI MILITARY OFFICERS REGULARLY VISIT SOUTH AFRICA TO LECTURE ON MODERN WARFARE AND COUNTERINSURGENCY TECHNIQUES. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY CHARACTERIZED AS AN "UNDERSTATE-MENT" UYS' OBSERVATION THAT ISRAELI-SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY RELATIONS ARE GOOD. (UYS(ARTICLE CARRIED IN MANCHESTER GUARDIAN AND JULY 8 WASHINGTON POST.)

2. WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT THAT AMIT'S PRIMARY MOTIVE IN VISITING SOUTH AFRICA WAS TO EXTEND AND AMPLIFY KOOR INDUSTRIES'
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ACTIVITIES HERE. HOWEVER, GIVEN CLOSE TIES BETWEEN MILITARY OF

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BOTH NATIONS, WHICH AMIT HIMSELF, PERHAPS UNDIPLOMATICALLY, CONFIRMED, IT IS LOGICAL TO ASSUME THAT HE MAY ALSO HAVE HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH SAG MILITARY AUTHORITIES. POST IS ALSO AWARE OF SPECULATION THAT AMIT'S VISITS TO OTHER AFRICAN STATES ARE PART OF ISRAELI EFFORTS TO REESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BLACK AFRICA.

3. POST HOPES TO SECURE MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING AMIT'S VISIT WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS AND WILL KEEP ADDRESSEES INFORMED.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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